

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for managing a prepaid subscriber (PPS) account in a
2 telecommunication system, the method comprising the steps of:

3 establishing a credit balance in said PPS account;

4 linking at least one supplementary service to said PPS account wherein a
5 tariff table for said at least one supplementary service includes a rate comprising a
6 periodic charge associated with a predetermined time period;

7 determining that said predetermined time period associated with said
8 supplementary service is complete; and

9 applying said associated periodic charge to said PPS account.

1 2. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein linking said at least one
2 supplementary service to said subscriber account further comprises linking said
3 PPS account to a supplementary service sub-account and a call-event sub-
4 account.

1 3. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein applying said periodic charge
2 to said PPS account further comprises applying said periodic charge to said
3 supplementary service sub-account.

1 4. The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising the step of
2 transmitting an initial signal upon activation of said supplementary service sub-
3 account.

1 5. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
2 utilizing a timing function for measuring said predetermined time period;
3 and
4 sending a signal subsequent to said initial signal wherein said subsequent
5 signal indicates the end of said time period.

1 6. The method as set forth in Claim 4 further comprising the steps of:
2 detecting said initial signal;
3 detecting said subsequent signal;
4 determining that said predetermined time period has passed; and
5 generating a call data record associated with said supplementary service,
6 according to said tariff table, for application to said PPS account.

1 7. The method as set forth in Claim 6, further comprising the step of applying
2 said call data record to said PPS account.

1 8. The method as set forth in Claim 7, further comprising the step of linking
2 said supplementary services to said prepaid subscriber account wherein said
3 prepaid subscriber account is stored on a home location register.

1 9. An apparatus for managing a prepaid subscriber account in a wireless
2 telecommunication system, comprising:

3 a prepaid administration system coupled with said prepaid subscriber
4 account;

5 a means for charging and reducing funds in said prepaid subscriber
6 account;

7 a database for storing tariff information associated with said prepaid
8 subscriber account wherein said tariff information comprises:

9 a first value for call events; and

10 a second value for periodic charges related to said supplementary
11 service sub-account; and

12 a timer for determining a time period related to said periodic charges.

1 10. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 9, wherein said PPS account
2 comprises a supplementary service sub-account and a call-event sub-account.

1 11. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 10, further comprising a means for
2 applying said periodic charges to said supplementary service sub-account.

1 12. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 9 further comprising a signal generating
2 means for generating an initial signal upon activation of said supplementary
3 service sub-account.

1 13. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 12 further comprising:
2 a timing function for measuring said predetermined time period; and
3 detection means for detecting said initial signal and a signal corresponding
4 with the end of said time period.

1 14. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 13, further comprising means for
2 generating a call data record associated with said supplementary service,
3 according to said tariff table, for application to said PPS account.

1 15. The apparatus as set forth in Claim 13, further comprising means for
2 applying said call data record to said prepaid subscriber account.

1 16. A computer program product within a computer usable medium for
2 managing a prepaid subscriber (PPS) account in a telecommunication system,
3 comprising the steps of:

4 instructions within the computer usable medium for establishing a credit
5 balance in said PPS account;

6 instructions within the computer usable medium for linking at least one
7 supplementary service to said subscriber account wherein a tariff table for said at
8 least one supplementary service includes a rate comprising a periodic call data
9 record associated with a predetermined time period;

10 instructions within the computer usable medium for determining that said
11 predetermined time period associated with said supplementary service is
12 complete; and

13 instructions within the computer usable medium for applying said
14 associated periodic charge to said PPS account.

1 17. The computer program product as set forth in Claim 16 wherein instructions
2 for linking said at least one supplementary service to said subscriber account
3 further comprises instructions for linking said PPS account to a supplementary
4 service sub-account and a call-event sub-account.

1 18. The computer program product as set forth in Claim 16, wherein
2 instructions for applying said periodic charge to said PPS account further
3 comprises instructions applying said periodic charge to said supplementary
4 service sub-account.

1 19. The computer program product as set forth in Claim 17 further comprising:
2 instructions within the computer usable medium for utilizing a timing
3 function for measuring said predetermined time period; and
4 instructions within the computer usable medium for sending a signal
5 subsequent to said initial signal wherein said subsequent signal indicates the end
6 of said time period.

1 20. The computer program product as set forth in Claim 19 further comprising:
2 instructions within the computer usable medium for detecting said initial
3 signal;
4 instructions within the computer usable medium for detecting said
5 subsequent signal; and
6 instructions within the computer usable medium for determining that said
7 predetermined time period has passed; and
8 instructions within the computer usable medium for generating a call data
9 record associated with said supplementary service according to said tariff table for
10 application to said PPS account.

1 21. The computer program product as set forth in Claim 20, further comprising
2 instructions within the computer usable medium for applying said call data record
3 to said PPS account.

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